UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/982
21 October 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 20 OCTOBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued between 1 and 15 October 1998 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 1-15 October 1998

1. In the northern region 83 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Zakho, Irbil, Tall Afar, Tall Kayf, Sinjar, Rawanduz, Kuysanjaq and Sarsank.

2. In the southern region 717 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Basrah, Shatrah, Qal'at Salih, Maymunah, Rifa'i, Kut, Mu'ayanah, Nukhayb, Jabal Sanam, Diwaniyah, Lasaf, Safwan, Amarah, Umm Qasr, Taqtaqanah, Hamzah, Ali al-Sharqi, Ali al-Gharbi, Abu Sukhayr and Amghar.

3. Ten violations were committed by TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at altitudes of 20,000 metres and at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour.

4. At 1115, 1120, 1130, 1200, 1225, 1530, 1654, 1700 and 1750 hours on 26 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qas

5. At 1010, 1100, 1105, 1715 and 1730 hours on 27 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr.

6. At 1005, 1045 and 1120 hours on 28 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

7. At 1030, 1116, 1121, 1159, 1311, 1729 and 1744 hours on 29 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

8. At 1021, 1025 and 1255 hours on 30 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

9. At 1130 hours on 5 October 1998 a formation of United States aircraft brok the sound barrier over the Basrah area.

10. At 1005 and 1040 hours on 6 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

11. At 0905, 0910, 0915, 1050, 1145, 1635 and 1645 hours on 7 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

12. At 0910, 0920, 0925, 0945, 1050, 1210 and 1215 hours on 8 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

13. At 1045 hours on 8 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Nasiriyah area.

14. At 0943, 1110, 1115, 1142 and 1145 hours on 9 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

15. At 0905, 0907, 0934, 1028, 1055, and 1612 hours on 10 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

16. At 0912 and 1141 hours on 13 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

17. At 0915 and 0925 hours on 14 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/531
S/1998/983
2 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 62
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 20 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 19 October 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex, which contains a letter from His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, concerning the address made by Mr. Glafkos Clerides, the leader of the Greek Cypriot administration, at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly on 25 September 1998, would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volkan VURAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 19 October 1998 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 16 October 1998 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, concerning the address made by Mr. Glafkos Clerides, leader of the Greek Cypriot administration, at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly on 25 September 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Appendix

Letter dated 16 October 1998 from Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the address made by Mr. Glafkos Clerides, the leader of the Greek Cypriot administration, in his purported capacity as "President of the Republic of Cyprus", at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly on 25 September 1998.

In the absence of Turkish Cypriot participation at the General Assembly, Mr. Clerides, having forgotten the agony of Turkish Cypriots during 1963-1974, has once again preferred to rest his argument on the false premise that the arrival of Turkish troops in 1974 marks the beginning of the Cyprus problem. He has also forgotten the exchange of population agreement which he had made with me in Vienna in 1975 and the agreement on bi-zonality made in order to prevent my people from being, once again, subject to the inhuman treatment accorded to them for 11 years until their redemption by Turkey.

Mr. Clerides claimed the right for all Greek Cypriot "refugees" to return to the North as a precondition for peace on the island. Naturally, his listeners could not realize that this is a demand for the right to push all Turkish Cypriot refugees, most of whom have been uprooted from their homes thrice in three decades, out into the sea, since they will not return to the South to suffer the same agony that they had suffered between the years 1963 and 1974.

Worst of all, Mr. Clerides in his statements in New York and in Cyprus has incredibly denied the existence of the basic principle of "exchange of property and compensation", which the Secretary-General has set as one of the parameters in the set of ideas (S/24472, annex), thus destroying all vestiges of trust between us. Furthermore, his pronouncement that the Cyprus problem cannot be settled within the context of the "old 1960 agreements", is a clear confirmation that the main objective in the criminal "Akritas Plan", which was prepared and executed in order to wipe out the Turkish Cypriot population from Cyprus and remove all obstacles to the Hellenization of Cyprus by abrogating the said agreements, is still very much alive.

Again, feeling secure in his unilateral appeal to the General Assembly, Mr. Clerides forgot his admission to me at Glion (in the presence of your Special Adviser on Cyprus, Mr. Diego Cordovez) - which he later repeated to Mr. Richard C. Holbrooke in Nicosia - to the effect that he knows he is not the government of the Turkish Cypriots and he does not claim to be so.

Mr. Clerides' excuse for reverting back to the false pretence that he represents the whole island and its whole population was stated by him to be the fact that his administration is recognized as the "Government of Cyprus".

I, of course, did not expect Mr. Clerides to tell the world that he was not the "Government of Cyprus" since in 1963 he had destroyed the partnership state established under the 1960 Treaties in order, in his own words, "to convert

Cyprus into a Greek Cypriot Republic" and demote the Turkish Cypriot co-founder partner "into a protected minority in a Greek Cyprus".

His speech before the General Assembly reminded me of the confession he made at a press conference in Southern Cyprus on 6 November 1997 that his purpose in attending the intercommunal talks was for "tactical reasons" in order to say yes to everything that the Turkish Cypriot side would reject, thus exposing the Turkish side as "intransigent", boasting also that he has been successful in this tactic all along. Mr. Clerides has, once again, applied his "tactic" in the General Assembly by pretending that he is ready and willing to start the talks with me.

Naturally, no one listening remembered that Mr. Clerides' whole career has been based on complete rejection of everything that stood for power-sharing with the Turkish Cypriot side on the basis of the 1977-1979 high-level agreements. It is an irony that Mr. Clerides has won two elections on the platform that he will integrate with Greece and that the United Nations set of ideas was a sell-out to the Turkish Cypriot side.

During the years between 1994 and 1996, my constant appeals to Mr. Clerides to come to the negotiating table, on the basis of the United Nations set of ideas, were consistently turned down with the excuse that there was no "common ground". Mr. Clerides had to say something in his address to the General Assembly in 1996, about his constant refusal to meet with me:

> "We are prepared to embark on face-to-face negotiations in 1997 once the ground has been sufficiently prepared to ensure success. We are not, however, willing, after 22 years of negotiations which have not yielded any result on the main issues of the problem, to embark on another round of fruitless talks, which on the one hand destroy the credibility of the negotiating process, while on the other keep the attention of the international community focused on the constitutional aspect of the problem, thus overshadowing the real issue which is the invasion and continued occupation for 22 years of substantial territory of the Republic of Cyprus by the Turkish forces."

And when we finally met at Troutbeck and later at Glion, he even objected to the mentioning of the United Nations set of ideas.

He had indeed destroyed, directly and through the European Union decisions adopted at the behest of the Greek Cypriot side and Greece, all the parameters on which the talks could continue. The purchase of the sophisticated S-300 Russian missile system, giving military air and naval bases to Greece and unilateral application to the European Union for membership are but a few of the examples that destroyed the parameters of a solution.

Mr. Clerides rejected, for the first time, the parameter that provided for "exchange of property and compensation", believing that membership in the European Union would nullify such undertakings previously made. He told me that he was not going to discuss "sovereignty" with me because the sovereignty of Cyprus was intact and internationally recognized. The 1960 agreements, which had created a partnership between two peoples and the parameter that underlined

the fact that sovereignty of the bi-zonal, federal Republic would emanate from the two peoples, was thus deemed irrelevant.

Mr. Clerides believed that the deliberate destruction of the 1960 partnership Republic and the ousting by force of arms of Turkish Cypriots from all the organs of the state, the inhuman treatment of Turkish Cypriots for 11 years and the destruction of 103 villages and the usurpation of our lands were actions that made them the legitimate masters of Cyprus and that consequently we had no right to talk about a new arrangement for our rights, as an ex-partner, so that our plight of 1963-1974 would not be repeated.

I kept on reminding Mr. Clerides that the destruction of the partnership has not destroyed the Turkish Cypriot partner and that we have established our own state. In view of the continuing usurpation by the Greek Cypriot side of what would have been a "joint seat of government", it became essential that the world as well as the Greek Cypriot side should hence know who was talking to whom when sitting at a new round of talks. The intercommunal talks, which went on for decades and produced no tangible results, could not be the new process. Treating the two parties as political equals was meaningless as long as one of those equals was allowed to continue under the false title of "the Government of Cyprus", taking unilateral decisions and affecting the future of the whole of Cyprus. When I challenged Mr. Clerides on this incompatibility, his answer was very clear! He told me that the continuation of the intercommunal talks was no reason for the government to stop its governmental activities and that I had no right **at the intercommunal talks to question those activities**. So it became clear that Mr. Clerides was most sincere in his statement that he attended the intercommunal talks for **tactical reasons** "in order to say yes whenever the Turkish Cypriot side said no, thus exposing the Turkish Cypriot side as intransigent". This was a shocking revelation to us because we had wasted three decades in what we thought was a serious result-oriented process. We have now learned that the Greek Cypriot priority was, and still is, "governmental activities", such as the processing of its unilateral application for European Union membership. Greek Cypriot attempts since 1963 to convert Cyprus into a Greek Cypriot Republic had entered a new phase: Greek Cypriot leaders believed that they had fully deceived the world and that the title deed of Cyprus was now theirs. Our Declaration of Independence back in 1983 in order to show to them, in the words of President Clinton, **that there are two owners of Cyprus: Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots** has not apparently sufficed to prove to them this reality.

The European Union's interpretation of the Greek Cypriot application as a proper application by Cyprus had destroyed all hope for reunification under a federal structure, because Greek Cypriot leaders believed that they had acquired the title deed of Cyprus and that, sooner or later, through European Union membership, this would become an indisputable fait accompli.

It was the balance created between Turkey and Greece in 1960 that prevented the attempt by Greece in 1974 to grab Cyprus. It is these old agreements that created a "state of affairs" that would have to be the bulwark of any future settlement. This delicate external balance between the two motherlands was reinforced internally by providing a partnership state on the condition that one community had no right to impose its political will on the other, nor to

dominate the other, while giving each community full autonomy in "communal affairs". Thus a sui generis, functional federal system was brought about. It is this sui generis system, this partnership, that the Greek Cypriot side has destroyed by force of arms, and that they strive to get away with it as if the Republic of Cyprus was a unitary Greek Cypriot state, which they represent as a nation of Cypriots. It is their "Greek leader" Archbishop Makarios who put on record on 28 March 1963 that the agreements did not create a nation. He declared: **"there is no Cypriot nation ... We are Hellens"**. And, as such, Mr. Clerides is trying to convert the island into a second Hellenistic republic and we, the Turks of Cyprus, are refusing to bow to this criminal attempt at colonization.

The following excerpts from the Greek Cypriot press will suffice to show to what extent the Greek Cypriot leadership has integrated "Cyprus" with Greece and the boastful remarks that they have succeeded in full integration and that the rest will be completed through European Union membership:

"Clerides stated that the distance between Greece and Cyprus has been reduced to zero and said 'Greece and Cyprus have decided that they will be in the same trenches in order to secure the rights of Cyprus Hellenism'" (Greek Cypriot daily Filelefttheros of 5 July 1998);

"Greece is here, because Cyprus is Greece" (Greek President Stephanopoulous, quoted by Greek Cypriot daily Simerini of 25 June 1998).

Furthermore, Mr. Clerides accuses us and Turkey of secessionist policies. Mr. Clerides apparently expected us to recognize the illegal Greek Cypriot establishment as our government. That we have not done and will never do. Secession means breaking away from a legitimate state. But we were thrown out of the joint state by force of arms in December 1963. The unsuccessful Greek Cypriot attempt to convert Cyprus into a Greek Cypriot Republic resulted in the division of the island. In spite of this failure, the insistence of the Greek Cypriot leaders to continue the deception that they were "the government of Cyprus" obliged us to prove the contrary. Hence, the declaration of our statehood. Refusal to see this reality and instead to give priority to "governmental activity" and to "European Union membership" in order to make, in the words of Mr. Clerides, "Hellenism in Cyprus victorious" necessitated our new move for securing our existence as Turkish Cypriot people. Hence, our recent offer of confederation, implying a movement in the direction of unity, but starting from the realities of Cyprus, from the existence of, in the words of the Foreign Minister of Italy, Mr. Lamberto Dini, two peoples, two democracies, two administrations in Cyprus.

I am accused of lacking the will to settle the problem. Oddly enough it is my signature that is under all the formulae worked out for a fair settlement by successive United Nations Secretaries-General. It has been the Greek Cypriot rejection of such documents that has prevented a settlement. Such rejections are because the usurper of power is internationally recognized as the legitimate "government of Cyprus".

Mr. Clerides wants all Cypriots to have security - in their homes and in their communities. The proposals for a confederate settlement will give this in full to Cyprus. A confederate settlement will put an end to the claim that 100 per cent Greek Cypriot administration is the government of all, and is entitled to push all Turkish Cypriot refugees out to the sea under a plea of human rights.

Mr. Clerides wants all Cypriots to pursue their livelihoods free from economic restrictions and the fear of instability. My proposal for a settlement on a confederate basis will amply provide for this. When the Greek Cypriot side realizes that Turkish Cypriots are the co-owners of this island, enjoying as much right as they have and that they need to cooperate with us as equals, then we will be free of economic restrictions and the fear of instability. It is odd that the person who puts forward this grand vision is the very authority who has adamantly been imposing an inhuman and illegal economic, social, political and sports embargo on my people for 35 years now, because we are "guilty" of not bowing to the Greek Cypriot aspirations.

I challenge Mr. Clerides to remove all these restrictions on us in order to show that he is a man of his word and that he is not paying lip-service to these lofty principles for tactical reasons.

A confederate set-up, while uniting the two states on the essentials of a united Cyprus at the top, will prevent Greek Cypriot leaders from reverting back to the measures of restrictions, harassment and economic and other embargoes upon us in the future. What we propose is in line with a vision of co-existence on the basis of political equality and sovereignty. We are taking precautions against deeds and we are not going to be influenced by mere words.

Mr. Clerides declared that he wants all Cypriot children to know their distinct cultural and religious heritage and to be able to carry their identity and political rights into the future without fear of domination from any quarter. As to the assurance of our identity and political rights "without fear of domination from any quarter", I urge Mr. Clerides to accept that a confederate set-up will totally eliminate such fears. So, if his vision is all that he says it is, why insist on a set-up that will give Greek Cypriots a chance to repeat the 1963-1974 events in Cyprus?

The concern of Mr. Clerides about single sovereignty, indivisibility and unity of the bi-communal, bi-zonal federation and such a federation becoming a member of the European Union does not give us confidence because the Greek Cypriot side never believed in a bi-zonal federation and never conceded our sovereign political equality, which is so essential for re-establishing a partnership state among equals. It is he who has destroyed all chances of a federal settlement by refusing to acknowledge our political equality and sovereignty.

While maintaining the position that the return of all Greek Cypriot refugees is a precondition for a settlement, he prefers to ignore the fact that this demand destroys the basis foundation of bi-zonality.

His assertion that "this federation, being a member of the European Union, will thrive at home and abroad" indicates the little respect he has for the Turkish Cypriot side, for he should have know the well-expressed policy of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and of Turkey on this issue. Mr. Clerides fails to understand that Turkish Cypriots are as mature and responsible as Greek Cypriots are and that they do not want others to tell them what is good or bad for them. The interference of the European Union in the affairs of Cyprus, at the beck and call of the Greek Cypriot side and of Greece, has destroyed the foundation of a federal settlement and yet Mr. Clerides expects us to believe that a federal structure will ensue and will become a member of the European Union.

No Turkish Cypriot will accept Mr. Clerides' statement as true or sincere when he says that he believes "the gap between what ordinary Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots want and need in a settlement is not so great as it might appear".

The gap between our respective peoples is one of confidence, resting on the attempt, at gunpoint, to impose Greek Cypriot political will upon us as "the Government of Cyprus", knowing well that there is no legal or moral justification for doing so. Thirty-five years of this illegal and immoral attempt have created a deep crisis of confidence and security between the two peoples. A confederate settlement is the way to override the crisis, in time, as it will give ample security to both sides to be the sovereign masters of their respective states while joining hands in agreed functions at the confederate level.

I am ready to meet with Mr. Clerides once he tells the world what he has told me and later repeated to others that his administration is not the government of the Turkish Cypriots and does not aspire to be the government of the Turkish Cypriots, so that the world, including the European Union countries, will realize that the unilateral application made by the so-called "Government of Cyprus" is an application made by the Greek Cypriot side only and does not, in any way or manner, cover the whole of Cyprus or involve the Turkish Cypriots in the North.

An invitation for talks as two communal leaders, while addressing the General Assembly as the "President of Cyprus" and referring to the Greek Cypriot administration as "the Government of Cyprus" is a tactical move that does not have merit for serious consideration.

The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is as much a reality as the Greek Cypriot administration in the South. The political will of my people is as genuine and democratic as that of the Greek Cypriot people. The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus has no policy of extending its boundaries or its sovereignty over the South. The Greek Cypriot administration should make a similar announcement that it has no policy to dominate the North. An autonomous claims commission should be established to work on the modalities of an exchange of property and compensation and all internal and international activity to the contrary should be stopped.

Turkish presence in Cyprus should be accepted for what it is: a legal deterrent against the occupiers of the seat of the joint government who are using the title of the "Government of Cyprus" in order to harm the interest, equality and sovereignty of Turkish Cypriots. It is the presence of Turkish troops that has brought my people peace and security. Turkey, as a guarantor motherland, is duty-bound to help us keep peace in the island.

Mr. Clerides claims that "the Government of the Republic of Cyprus", which he knows he is not, "will continue to exercise its sovereign right to strengthen its defence as long as Turkish forces remain in Cyprus", and that there is a "continuous threat against Cyprus by the vastly superior military might of Turkey whose aim is to keep the island a perpetual hostage, to destroy its sovereignty and to reduce it to a Turkish protectorate". It is very bizarre to view himself as the protector of the sovereignty of Cyprus when it is the Greek Cypriot leadership that has destroyed and divided it by trying to convert a partnership state into a Greek Cypriot state. It is equally bizarre to present Turkey as a threat to "Cyprus" when Turkey is here to prevent the annihilation of Turkish Cypriots. The Greek Cypriot leadership should recant and acknowledge the realities of Cyprus if it is really interested in establishing a common future with us.

(Signed) Rauf R. DENKTAŞ
President

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/532
S/1998/984
22 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 155
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 20 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to a heinous act of terrorism perpetrated yesterday in the Israeli city of Beersheba, carried out by Palestinian terrorists.

In the attack, two fragmentation grenades were hurled at a crowd of passengers in the city's central bus station. The attack took place close to 8 a.m., when the bus terminal was filled with morning commuters. Over 64 individuals, including women and children, were injured in the attack, some of them critically.

The Palestinian terrorist suspect was apprehended at the scene of the crime, and is presently under investigation. It has been ascertained that he is from area H-1 in Hebron, which is under the full security and civilian control of the Palestinian Authority.

The attack was timed to coincide with the Israeli-Palestinian summit meeting taking place in Maryland, and was clearly intended to undermine its success. It was calculated not only to kill Israelis, but to derail the peace process as well.

The vicious attack underscores Israel's position that effective security measures to combat terrorism must constitute an imperative and central component in any agreement reached between the sides.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 155, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ambassador Dore GOLD
Permanent Representative

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/985
22 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 OCTOBER 1998 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey the attached communication, dated 8 October 1998, which I have received from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

98-31595 (E) 221098

/...

Annex

Letter dated 8 October 1998 from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with Security Council resolution 1088 (1996), I attach the twenty-first monthly report on the operations of the Stabilization Force (SFOR) (see appendix). I would appreciate your making this report available to the Security Council.

(Signed) Javier SOLANA

Appendix

Report to the Security Council on the operations of the Stabilization Force

1. There are approximately 36,000 troops currently deployed in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, with contributions for all countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and from 21 non-NATO countries.

2. Over the reporting period (21 August-20 September) the Stabilization Force (SFOR) continued to conduct surveillance and reconnaissance by means of ground and air patrols. Approximately 2,990 sorties were flown by combat aircraft, with the SFOR helicopter fleet flying approximately 138 hours.

3. SFOR continues to monitor crossing points on the border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and to inspect government factories in order to help ensure compliance with the prohibition on the transport of weapons established by the Security Council in its resolution 1160 (1998). No reports of non-compliance have been received in the current reporting period.

4. SFOR provided enhanced support to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) during the preparations for, and conduct of, the elections which were held in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 12 and 13 September. SFOR troops provided a safe and secure environment for the elections and provided communications support to OSCE throughout the polling period. In addition, SFOR troops guarded the OSCE warehouse at Rajlovac, provided convoy escort and security during the road transportation of sensitive election materials, and guarded the OSCE counting centre at Lukavica. On polling days, SFOR provided helicopter support to OSCE.

5. During the run-up to the elections, SFOR provided a secure environment at selected sites and helicopter transportation to support the surveillance by the United Nations International Police Task Force (IPTF) of crossing points over the Inter-Entity Boundary Line and over the border of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Cooperation and compliance by the parties

6. The parties remain substantially compliant with most military provisions of the Peace Agreement. Although the election period was largely uneventful, there were several isolated incidents relating to the return of refugees. At the beginning of September, Bosnian Croats threatened Bosniac returnees in the Mostar and Stolac areas and intimidated Bosnian Serb returnees in Drvar. During the same period, Bosnian Serbs threatened Bosniac returnees in the Modrica area.

7. Over the reporting period, SFOR troops conducted a total of 251 inspections of military weapon storage sites: 83 Bosniac; 42 Bosnian Croat; 102 Bosnian Serb; and 24 Federation. No significant discrepancies were noted, and no weapons confiscated. In line with SFOR policy to reduce the overall number of weapon sites, 49 of the 136 weapon storage sites which are to be closed between 10 June 1998 and 28 February 1999 have now been closed.

8. The Police Anti-Terrorist Brigade of the Republika Srpska Specialist Police remains compliant with the terms of the Peace Agreement and with the requirements set out by SFOR on 15 August 1997. The Police Restructuring and Training Programme is continuing, led by IPTF and monitored by SFOR. Discussions are currently under way between the Commander of SFOR and IPTF to reach an agreement which would enable the transfer of the Police Anti-Terrorist Brigade from military to civilian status under the terms of the Peace Agreement. The Police Unit for the Protection of Persons and Buildings was officially disbanded on 16 August 1998.

9. Over the reporting period, SFOR troops monitored a total of 702 training and movement activities: 152 Bosniac; 33 Bosnian Croat; 366 Bosnian Serb; and 151 Federation. The following training and movement bans were imposed by SFOR: from 27 to 31 August, on the 55th Engineer Regiment, the 55th Medical Battalion and the 55th Military Police Company of the Bosnian Serb Army, owing to the discovery of a demining team in an unauthorized site; a two-week ban on the Bosnian Serb Air Force and its Air Defence units owing to the failure of the Air Force Commander to attend a meeting of the Joint Military Commission in the Multi-National Division South West on 21 August 1998; and a ban on all units of the Entity Armed Forces from 6 to 20 September because of the elections.

10. Between 16 August and 13 September, the Entity Armed Forces, now accredited to the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre, conducted 792 demining activities, removing a total of 332 devices (17 anti-tank mines, 262 anti-personnel mines and 53 items of unexploded ordnance) from 28,620 square metres of land. SFOR troops monitored 699 demining activities. There are currently no bans imposed on the Entity Armed Forces for non-compliance with mine-clearing operations.

Cooperation with international institutions

11. Within its capabilities, SFOR continues to provide assistance to the international organizations in the theatre, in cooperation with OSCE, IPTF (including in its inspections of local police stations), the Office of the High Representative, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

12. As noted above, over the reporting period, SFOR enhanced its support to OSCE during the preparations for, and conduct of, the recent elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

13. SFOR continues to provide assistance to the Office of the High Representative in the field of civil air traffic. Civil operations at Tuzla airport were expected to be inaugurated in October. With regard to Sarajevo airport, the revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding which will permit cargo operations and allow commercial aircraft to remain on the apron overnight have now been approved by the Council of Ministers. SFOR personnel are currently dealing with an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding for Banja Luka airport, which would allow overnight parking there. In addition, SFOR is seeking to introduce a traffic management area around Banja Luka which would assist pilots in landing.

14. SFOR continues to play an active role in providing support to the efforts by the Office of the High Representative to establish common institutions. Although the Standing Committee on Military Matters has not met since 13 August because of the summer break and the election period, SFOR has facilitated an agreement between the Entity Armed Forces and the Presidency which will provide for VIP military helicopter flights across the Inter-Entity Boundary Line. It is hoped that this agreement will be signed at the next meeting of the Standing Committee. In addition, SFOR has supported the work of OSCE, with the Standing Committee to hold a seminar in October which will address the management of natural or civil disasters. SFOR will take the lead on the military-to-military aspects of the seminar.

Outlook

15. Acts of intimidation and violence towards displaced persons and refugees can be expected to continue, and the situation may be exacerbated by the influx of refugees from Kosovo (currently numbering around 6,800).

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/986
22 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 19 OCTOBER 1998 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my letter of 27 October 1997 (S/1997/998), I informed the Security Council about the readiness of the United Nations to monitor the return of political leaders who had left Cambodia after the July events and their resumption of political activities. In its letter dated 30 October 1997 (S/1997/999), the Security Council expressed support for the suggested monitoring operation and welcomed my intention to keep it regularly informed.

I should like to inform you that the monitoring operation of returning political leaders was successfully completed on 30 September 1998. I wish to express my sincere thanks to all those Member States whose generous contributions made this operation possible. I should also like to express my gratitude to the Government of Cambodia whose support was indispensable for the success of the monitoring operation.

I should be grateful, Mr. President, if you would kindly make the present letter available to the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

98-31622 (E) 221098

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/987
22 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 OCTOBER 1998 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 19 October 1998 (S/1998/986), containing information that the monitoring operation of returning political leaders was successfully completed on 30 September 1998, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the content of the letter.

(Signed) Jeremy GREENSTOCK
President of the Security Council

98-31628 (E) 221098

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/535
S/1998/988
22 October 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 62
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 20 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 19 October 1998 (A/53/527-S/1998/979), I have the honour to draw your attention to a new violation of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 19 October 1998.

On that day, one B-200 turboprop aircraft of the Turkish Air Force entered the northern part of the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations as well as the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria and landing afterward at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus. In the afternoon of the same day, the same aircraft returned to the Ankara flight information region following a reverse schedule.

As stated in my previous letters, such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus are in violation of international air traffic rules and, at the same time, they are in contravention of the provisions of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, which state that such overflights increase tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a final settlement.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest these new provocative acts by Turkey against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which constitute a blatant disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus. These continuing overflights by the Turkish Air Force, as well as the presence of the Turkish military occupation forces on the island, constitute the underlying causes of tension in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotos ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative